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material lengthening of the law course and possibly a shortening of the undergraduate college course for law students, a change that in the opinion of many would not be undesirable. That the study of such related subjects as transportation, interstate commerce, insurance, banking, municipal government, international law and consular affairs in connection with the technical study of the law, would serve greatly to broaden the field of the student goes without saying. And to study such subjects as a part of a law course would undoubtedly give better results than would come from their study in a preparatory course, as their related value and importance would more clearly appear.

While the leading notion of this book that law should be a present, living thing, adapted to present conditions and necessities, commends itself at once to the thinking reader, the associated notion that the entire doctrine of the existence of certain abstract legal principles must go, will not probably meet with general approval. Undoubtedly very much, perhaps most, of the law springs as a resultant from present conditions, but it might prove to be a correct conclusion also to say that much of it rests in abstract principles of right and justice that are applied, as occasion demands, to the solution of present problems.

H. B. HUTCHINS.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW OF ENGLAND. By Edward Wavell Ridges, of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-law. London: Stevens & Sons, Limited, 1905, pp. xxxii, 459.

This book presents a comprehensive view of the government of the United Kingdom and her colonies. It is not a treatise upon the constitutional law of England, in the sense that Story's and Cooley's great works are treatises on the constitutional law of our country, but rather a treatise on English political institutions, with a brief account of their history and development. It is a book for the general reader who desires to be informed as to the governmental machinery of the English people and its practical operation, as well as for one with technical learning in the law.

The book is divided into six parts. Part I deals with the "Nature and Sources of English Constitutional Law." Part II, with the "Legislature and the Public Revenue," with chapters on "The Meeting and Termination of Parliament," "The House of Commons," "The House of Lords," "Public, Private and Money Bills," and "The Public Revenue." Part III is occupied with a discussion of "The Executive," and includes chapters on "The Crown," "The Privy and Cabinet Councils" and "The Members of the Executive." Part IV deals with "The Judiciary," treating of English judicial institutions in the period preceding and including the reign of Edward I; that following the reign of Edward I. to the Judicature acts of 1873-1902, and that under the Judicature acts. Part V discusses "The Church, the Navy and the Army," and Part VI, the countries subject to the laws of England, with separate chapters on "The United Kingdom," "The Colonies," "The Indian Empire," and on "Protectorates and Miscellaneous Possessions."

The chapters on the Judiciary will furnish as much of interest to lawyers

as any other portion of the book, and present, in less than a hundred pages, a very clear view of English jurisprudence, the development, historically, of the various courts, their relations and jurisdiction.

The author presents a brief study in comparative constitutional law in which he writes this paragraph: "The Constitution of the United States is contained in a document containing seven articles, which was drawn up by a convention of the various states in 1787. This document was ratified by nine states, and came into force on June 21, 1788. The ratification by the last of the states, thirty-seven in number, who now compose the Union, was that of Rhode Island in 1790." (p. 15). This paragraph presents some difficulties to the American student, particularly when known to have been written in 1904 or 1905. In speaking of the powers of the President it is said: "He is empowered to fill up vacancies in the senate as they occur" (p. 17), etc. Further, in criticism of our executive, it is said: "Through the multitude of appointments, which are in the hands of the President, he has little time to attend to other matters" (p. 18). This last has a foundation of truth, but would certainly fail in its application to the present executive and many who have preceded him. These are errors indicating that the author is less familiar with our, than with his own institutions. They are not characteristic of the book, which is certainly most valuable in the field it was written primarily to cover. It is doubtful if anywhere else, in the same compass, there can be found so much information about English institutions, so entertainingly presented.

V. H. Lane.

CONDITIONAL AND FUTURE INTERESTS AND ILLEGAL CONDITIONS AND RESTRAINTS IN ILLINOIS. By Albert Martin Kales, Associate Professor of Law at the Law School of Northwestern University. Chicago: Callaghan & Co., 1905, pp. xliv, 453.

This book is dedicated to Professor John C. Gray, the author's former instructor; and by the preface we are informed that it is written to make the Illinois bar familiar with Professor Gray's learning and discrimination in handling the fundamental problems in the law of future interests. In keeping with this purpose, our author makes frequent mention of statements made by Professor Gray in lecturing to his classes in Harvard Law School or afterwards in letters to the author while this book was being written. Professor Kales' work is in fact a substantial contribution to American legal literature. It has been prepared with great care, and it is doubtful if any single topic of the law has ever been more thoroughly wrought out in any book designed merely to present the law of a single state as to such topic. As each question is taken up the leading authorities in the other states generally and England are presented, and then the Illinois decisions are carefully reviewed. Considering the inherent difficulty of the subject treated, and the lack of adequate treatment of it in recent text-books, there is no doubt that this book would be useful even to lawyers in other states than Illinois.

JOHN R. Rood.